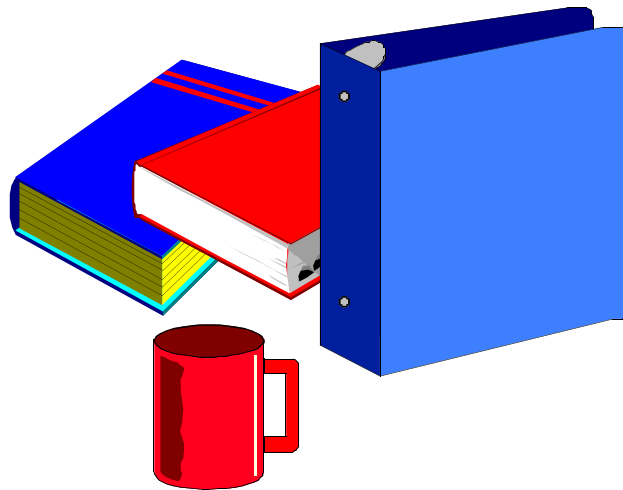


**Direct Support Professional Training  
Year 1**

# **Teacher's Resource Guide**



**California Department of Education  
and the  
Regional Occupational Centers and Programs  
in partnership with the  
Department of Developmental Services**

**1999**



## **Dedication**

To everyone who is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities.



# Acknowledgements

These Direct Support Professional (DSP) Training materials reflect the tremendous effort by many people throughout the state of California and across the nation who contributed their time and expertise. In doing so, these individuals have demonstrated their personal commitment to promoting quality services for people with developmental disabilities.

Special thanks are extended to:

- The California Legislature for their leadership in establishing this Direct Support Professional (DSP) Training Program.
- The Department of Developmental Services Advisory Committee members who have provided essential individual and collective input into the development and review of the core competencies, testing and training materials.
- The Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)/care providers for their dedication and invaluable input into the development of the core competencies.
- Individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members for sharing insightful information about their needs and what is necessary to their quality of life.
- The dedicated staff at regional centers for their faithful support to the training development process by sharing materials, ideas and concerns.
- The curriculum writers through whose collective genius and skills these materials were developed: Bill Allen, Ph.D., Ed Anamizu, PharmD., Joyce Berndt, M.A., Dema Hudson, M.A., Rhonda Krantz Mayer, M.S.S.A., Marsha Parsons, M.A., Dennis Reid, Ph.D., John Shea, Ph.D., Scott Shepard, M.A. and Barbara Ward, R.N.
- The Department of Education's Regional Occupational Centers and Programs for their extraordinary commitment to implement this testing and training program. Special thanks and acknowledgment to Ed King and local Regional Occupational Centers and Programs trainers.

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- The primary Department of Developmental Services staff who are coordinating the development and implementation of the training program: Margaret Anderson, Betsy Schultz and Ben Monroe.
- In addition: Ron Huff, Ph.D., Greg Wagner, Ph.D., Lana Martin, Tom Gracia, RPh., Deb Phillips, Cheri Yohamura, Peter Searls, Linda Anderson, Donna Schwan, Deirdre Ransome, Bob Lawrence, Marian Kung, Doug Fisher, Ph.D., Michael Kluck, Att., Diane Ambrose, Richard Mesaros, Ph.D., Jacki Anderson, Ph.D., Katie Bishop, Ph.D., Tom Neary, Shauneen Zupan and many others who provided inspiration, guidance, technical materials and support throughout the project.

There are many individuals whose names are not mentioned above, but who in some way or another have added to the successful completion of this training effort. To all of you, our sincerest appreciation!

## **Foreword**

In 1998, the California Legislature established the Direct Support Professional (DSP) Training Program. The purpose of the program is to increase quality of care for people with developmental disabilities living in licensed Community Care Facilities by ensuring core competencies or skills for all Direct Support Professionals. The statewide training program requires all Direct Support Professionals to successfully complete 70-hours of training over two-years, or to pass a challenge test for each of two, 35-hour training segments. Upon successfully completing either of these requirements, Direct Support Professional Certification will be provided.

The California Department of Developmental Services formed an Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives from the developmental services community, to provide direction for the training program. This was accomplished through statewide meetings, mailings, focus groups and pilots of draft training and testing materials. A formal job analysis was conducted to identify core competencies for Direct Support Professionals. The training and testing materials were then developed from these core competencies.

The Department of Developmental Services has engaged the California Department of Education's Regional Occupational Centers and Programs to implement the training and testing program. The training program is being coordinated and taught by Regional Occupational Centers and Programs in local communities. Local Regional Occupational Centers and Programs have also established Advisory Committees to assist in meeting community needs.

The training materials include: a *Teacher's Resource Guide* with lesson plans, applicable instructor dialogue and background information, classroom activities (with teaching ideas/tools for use with LCD or overhead projector, TV-VCR, charting activities, group and individual work), homework assignments, reference and resource materials for each of the eleven training sessions. The *Resource Guide* for the Direct Support Professional includes extensive information related to each of the eleven training sessions, in-class activities, homework assignments, session review questions/answers, reference and resource materials. Both guides have a Key-Word Dictionary encompassing all the key-words used throughout the eleven training segments, and general information to help Direct Support Professionals in preparing for the required competency test at the end of the training.





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